

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SANA 02259 161055Z

12

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 AID-05 /075 W
----- 090504

R 160930Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY SANA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6164

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

/AMEMBASSY CAIRO 305

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

COMIDEASTFOR

USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANA 2259

BEIRUT PASS BAGHDAD

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: OTRA, PINT, YE

SUBJECT: YAR PRESIDENT HAMD'I'S TRAVEL PLANS

REF: SANA 2238

1. SUMMARY. YAR PRESIDENT HAMD'I'S TRAVELS, REPORTED REFTEL
HAVE BEEN EXTENDED TO INCLUDE IRAN AND BAHRAIN. TRIP BEGINS
21 AUGUST.

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PAGE 02 SANA 02259 161055Z

2. ACCORDING TO AHMED ABDO SAID, HAMD'I WILL EXTEND HIS ITINERARY

TO INCLUDE IRAN AND BAHRAIN. SAID SAYS THESE KIND OF MEETINGS ARE SIMPLY "A MUST" FOR AN ARAB LEADER, BUT THE ADDITION OF TWO MORE GULF STATES TO THE ITINERARY WILL ADD TO THE APPEARANCE OF BALANCE AND INDEPENDENCE WHICH HAMDI WOULD LIKE TO HAVE IN HIS FOREIGN POLICY, DESPITE HIS HEAVY DEPENDENCE ON THE SAUDIS.

3. AT BOTH STOPS IT SHOULD BE POSSIBLE TO DISCUSS AID PROJECTS. ALTHOUGH NEITHER COUNTRY PROVIDES MUCH TO YEMEN, IRAN IS A POTENTIAL SOURCE OF WESTERN MILITARY EQUIPMENT AND TRAINING.

4. COMMENT: ADDITION OF TWO MORE STOPS IN GULF DO NOT MUCH CHANGE REFTTEL VIEWS, SO FAR AS WE CAN SEE, BUT SUBJECT OF GULF SECURITY IS LIKELY TO LOOM SOMEWHAT LARGER THAN BEFORE. HAMDI DOES NOT HAVE STRONG VIEWS ON THIS SUBJECT, EXCEPT TO FEEL THAT WHATEVER IS DONE BY REPARIANS WILL HAVE TO INCLUDE YEMEN, AND TAKE ACCOUNT OF YEMENI INTERESTS. IN ANY CASE, YARG VIEWS OF DANGERS OF RADICAL AND SOVIET BACKED PDRY (SEE SANA 2248) ARE LIKELY TO BE DISTINCTIVE IN GULF, AND HAMDI MAY RPT MAY EVEN BE WILLING TO EXPRESS VIEW THAT IT PREMATURE AND UNREASONABLE FOR FRIENDS OF USG TO PRESS FOR TERMINATION DATE FOR COMIDEASTFOR WHEN REDUCTION OF SOVIET PRESENCE AND INFLUENCE IN PDRY IS STILL ONLY GLEAM IN SAUDI EYES. WHETHER IT IS WORTH APPROACHING ASNAG ON THIS POINT BEFORE TRIP IS GOOD QUESTION. HAMDI WOULD CERTAINLY BE RELUCTANT TO GET OUR IN FRONT OF OTHER ARABS ON COMIDEASTFOR ISSUE AND, IN ANY CASE SWINGS LITTLE OR NO WEIGHT ON ISSUE. IT MIGHT BE BETTER TO LET YARG VIEWS EMERGE NATURALLY, WITHOUT TRYING TO PRIME THE PUMP. I JUST WANT TO SIGNAL MY BELIEF THAT OUR VIEWS ON COMIDEASTFOR WOULD GET A SYMPATHETIC HEARING FROM YARG IF WE WANTED TO APPROACH ASNAG OR HAMDI BEFORE THEY LEAVE NEXT THURSDAY.
RANSOM

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